

Integrating Green Infrastructure into a “One Water” Stormwater Vision for Tucson

University of Arizona - ENR2 Room S215

Friday, March 3, 2017 --- 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Overall Goals:

- Identify operational opportunities and obstacles to stimulate greater integration and coordination between agencies and departments;
- Recognize the resource potential of stormwater as part of a broader “One Water” approach to managing all water supply options for Tucson residents;
- Integrate the value and effectiveness of appropriate green stormwater infrastructure projects and strategies at neighborhood scale.
- Investigate and propose innovative funding streams to support Tucson’s green infrastructure and stormwater goals.

Previous Regional Coordination on Green Infrastructure

2011 LID Workshop

Purpose: To identify a regional vision for Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure in light of:

- 1.) Direction from the City/County Water Study to develop guidance for neighborhood-scale water harvesting.
- 2.) Recent revisions to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits from the AZ Department of Environmental Quality to ‘evaluate the use of Low Impact Development.’
- 3.) To consider how GI and LID could be used in updating the regional flood detention and retention guidance

Format: Morning presentations by locals in various fields, private and public sectors, , with afternoon facilitated discussions to discuss direction. Led by PC RFCD

Outcomes:

- 1.) Case Study Catalog (2015)
- 2.) PAG Regional Council Resolution Supporting Low Impact Development (2012)
- 3.) Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development Guidance Manual with Cost Benefit Analysis (2015)
- 4.) Design Standards for Stormwater Detention and Retention (2015)
- 5.) Ongoing LID Working Group formed

Workshop Resources: <https://webcms.pima.gov/cms/one.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=65271>

Working Group: <http://webcms.pima.gov/cms/one.aspx?pageId=65263>

This document with live links is available at - <http://pagstorm.com/meetings>

2012 AridLID Conference

Purpose: Form and prioritize research questions that cannot be or have not been answered by studies conducted in wetter parts of the country.

Format: Local and National Keynote speakers, followed by facilitated breakout sessions. Collaborative effort with AridLID from New Mexico. Led by WMG, WRRRC and several local municipal partners

Outcomes: Identification of key research questions for our region and key stakeholders that need to be involved.

Workshop Summary: https://wrrc.arizona.edu/sites/wrrc.arizona.edu/files/AridLID-2012-Research-Workshop-Report_final.pdf

2015 LID Workshop

Purpose: Present history and successes since 2011 LID Workshop and discuss path forward.

Format: Presentations with focus area facilitated discussions on first day, including awards for local leaders and a site tour at lunch, followed by an afternoon session on determining hurdles and barriers. Field training on second day. Co-hosted by multiple jurisdictions and UA plus WMG for field day

Outcomes: Focus area experts suggested path forward for coordination of Utilities, Economic Development, Transportation, Stormwater, Building and Site Development, Water Resources, Sustainability and Flood Control. This workshop broadened the scope from previous workshops to include elements of shallow groundwater restoration, heat island mitigation, and transportation systems.

Presentations promoted the ongoing use of recent accomplishments including policy inventory, outreach, tools to evaluate return on investment for arid regions, and online mapping prioritization assessment tools: <http://www.pagregion.com/tabid/189/default.aspx>

Workshop Resources and PAG Proceedings Report:
<http://www.pagregion.com/tabid/1016/default.aspx#LID>